

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Todd Akin (MO-2) released the following statement in response to President Barack Obama's State of the Union address:

"In last night's state of the union, President Obama recognized the political need of addressing job creation, a strengthened economy and smaller government."

"Unfortunately the President provided no real leadership or real solutions to the problems of entitlements, taxes and red tape."

"Reducing entitlements is a prerequisite to controlling government spending."

"Instead, the President's response has been to defend a government takeover of health care, a huge new government entitlement that costs taxpayers many billions of dollars."

"We must cut taxes to create jobs. Unfortunately, this President stubbornly refuses to permanently eliminate dividend capital gains and death taxes."

"We must also cut red tape to allow business to create jobs. Again, the President has gone around Congress to put in place regulations that bind the hands of business and place a tremendous drag on our economy."

"It is disingenuous to talk of job creation or a strengthened economy without addressing entitlements, cutting taxes and eliminating red tape."